

REQUEST FOR CONTINUATION OF EXAMINATION

WITH PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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TITLE OF INVENTION

A combination reversible jacket and tote bag in one by Carla Arlene Turner, a citizen of the United States of America and a resident of the City of Yorba Linda in the state of California.

CROSS - REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

All references pertaining to the present invention should be applied to the provisional patent application number 60/253,001 filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on November 27, 2000.

STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR
DEVELOPEMENT

Not Applicable.

REFERENCE TO A MICROFICHE APPENDIX

Not Applicable

STATEMENT REGARDING NEW MATTER

The substitute specification contains no new matter.

BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

Field Of Invention

The present invention relates to a combination convertible article useful as a jacket and tote bag in one. It is designed to be a convenient and practical jacket that is reversible. The jacket can quickly be turned into a tote bag by executing maneuvers that are basic and simple. The tote bag enables the user to carry an assortment of items including but not limited to: keys, wallets, sunglasses, clothing articles, books and magazines. The jacket has a back piece that doubles as a sack portion consisting of a surface interrupted by a mouth opening positioned across the shoulder area, in which mouth opening leads to a sack portion which when inverted, the entire jacket is delivered into the sack portion thus transforming the jacket into a tote bag. The jacket is reversible and is worn in the reversed mode. The presence of a reversible feature to the jacket allows the overall appearance of the present invention to conceal its multiple functions without the use of closing devices, in that the multiple functions are now not obvious to the human eye. Furthermore, the present invention was created as casual outerwear and as a carrying tote bag of which either function can be used for general purposes.

Description of Prior Art

To date we have seen many combinations of jacket and bag in one invention and various attempts that have been made in prior art to produce garments that have multiple uses. The drawbacks are that the multiple functions are actually limited, the article includes numerous closing devices thus giving the garment a more technical and rigid look to it rather than the appearance of what could be fashionable attire. In addition to all of this, the

maneuvers used to convert the item from one function to another are oftentimes tedious and laborious.

United States Patent Des. 277, 049 describes a jacket and carrier bag combination in which the major drawback is that the carrier bag can only hold one item, the jacket itself and nothing more. The limited use of the combination beach towel and tote bag found in U.S. Patent 4,856,912 is severely obvious in that the tote bag is so large it would be more of a chore to carry the item anywhere other than to the beach. The combination garment used, as a jacket and bag found in U.S. Patent 4,347,629 and the combination coat with a built in sleeping bag found in U.S. Patent 4,158,892 require elaborate adjustments to produce the desired effects or functions. Both items offer a rather unpleasant appearance when worn as a clothing item due to the multiple fastener tracks and sliders, sacks and buttons needed to transform the item from jacket or coat to the respective bag function.

U.S. Patent 4,502,154 demonstrates convenience however the size of the bag is not realistically suitable for carrying items comfortably other than the jacket itself, thus leaving the user with the dilemma of limited carrying space similar to that found in Des. 277, 049. U.S. Patent 4,700,409 is also an attempt at combining a jacket and bag in one feature. The sliding fasteners used to close the opening of the pouch when jacket is not being used as a bag, would be more appealing if they were hidden and upon the conversion from jacket to bag, the bag has a purse like design, that would be more attractive to a female population thus excluding an entire demographic of male users. U.S. Patent 4,502,155 is yet another attempt at a combination outerwear and bag in one. Here, a bag like structure is actually attached to the jacket by sewing walls together to form the bag, with an additional smaller bag attached on top of it. Chuck webs, connector hooks and snaps are needed to convert the jacket into the bag mode. These devices may be necessary to form the bag to function properly but the

problem is that when the article is worn as an outerwear garment, it has the appearance of a garment loaded with contraptions as oppose to a versatile piece of clothing.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention overcomes these problems and provides an overall improvement of the other prior art by presenting a reversible jacket that would allow the user to conceal the opening leading to the sack portion of the jacket that enables the user to convert the jacket into a tote bag. The fact that it is reversible also eliminates the need for fastening tracks, hooks and snaps to seal the sack portion opening because the jacket is worn in the reverse mode, and the back piece containing the opening for the sack portion is the inner layer for the inside of the jacket. The simplicity of this multi-facet combination reversible jacket and tote bag in one is that it only requires at least two maneuvers to change the article from one mode to the other. First the user takes off the jacket and by reaching into the opening of the sack portion of the jacket, the user inverts the sack portion, which delivers the jacket into the sack portion and thus converts the said jacket into a tote bag. When the garment is worn as a jacket, its function as a tote bag is not obvious to the human eye. Again, when the jacket is worn in the reverse mode, the back piece of the jacket has a smooth and uninterrupted surface, which allows for its multifunction to be concealed. The simplicity of the present invention makes the item versatile, comfortable and useful and gives the present invention a more fashionable look for outerwear attire while concealing its multiple functions.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Description of the Preferred Embodiment

The features of the present invention will be apparent from the following description with reference to the accompanying drawings, which illustrate preferred embodiment of the invention:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the article used both as a jacket and tote bag in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention, seen from the front.

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the jacket of FIG. 1 seen from the rear.

FIG. 3 is a view of the conversion from jacket to tote bag, as the sack portion is turned inside out.

FIG. 4 is a perspective view of the jacket converted into a tote bag and ready for use.

FIG. 5 is a perspective view of the jacket in FIG. 1 in its reversible mode as seen from the front.

FIG. 6 is a perspective view of the jacket of FIG. 1 in its reversible mode as seen from the rear.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring to FIG. 1, this view is a perspective view of jacket in its mode of operation as a casual jacket or the like. The jacket consists of Mouth 1, which is the head and neck opening of the jacket. Buttonhole track 2 along with button 3 is the fastening device used to keep the jacket closed when being worn. Sleeve 4 is used to receive the arms into the jacket and trunk portion 5 is for the upper part of the body. Trunk portion base 6 is the lower portion of trunk portion 5 of the said garment. Fig. 2 shows

the rear view of the outerwear garment. A double layer of material is sewn together to form the back piece of the trunk portion 5 of the jacket. The top layer of material has a mouth opening identified by 20 that leads to the sack portion, which is the result of the layers of material being attached. The Straps 21 are drawstrings and they are used to carry the combination reversible jacket and tote bag in one, when the jacket is being used in the tote bag function. The Straps 21 is threaded through loophole 22. Trunk portion base 6 is the lower trunk portion of the sack portion 30. FIG. 3 is a full view of the jacket as it is converted into the tote bag mode. The article can be used as a tote bag in the following manner. First the user takes off the jacket and places his hand through the mouth opening 20 of the sack portion 30 until he reaches the seam identified by trunk portion base 6 as viewed in FIG. 2. User then must grab hold of material at trunk portion base 6 and pull upward, inverting the entire sack portion 30. The sleeves 4, trunk portion 5, buttonhole track 2 and button 3 along with mouth opening 1 are all delivered down into the sack portion 30 through mouth opening 20. Drawstrings 21, which are positioned through loophole 22, are used to carry tote bag and are adjustable. Trunk portion base 6 is the lower trunk portion of sack portion 30 also viewed in FIG. 2, FIG. 4, and FIG. 6.

The results of this maneuver are seen in FIG. 4, as this is the perspective view of the jacket converted into the tote bag function and ready for use. Again, mouth opening 20 received sleeves 4, truck portion 5, button hole track 2 and button 3 along with mouth opening 1 and are all tucked down into the sack portion 30. Sack portion 30 is a capacious sack portion and can receive several items to be carried. Mouth 1 is the head and neck opening of the jacket when being worn. Drawstrings 21 which are

positioned through loop hole 22 are used to carry tote bag and are adjusted to be used as handles as seen in FIG. 3.

To convert the tote bag back into a jacket, simply reach inside the tote bag and pull out the sleeves 4 and the entire trunk portion 5, button hole track 2 and button 3 will unfold to reveal itself once again as a jacket. You could then place Drawstrings 21 inside the sack portion 30 identified in FIG. 2; and return jacket to its reverse mode and the jacket is now ready to be worn.

Because the jacket is reversible, FIG. 5 is a perspective view of the jacket in reversible mode. By simply turning the jacket inside out, you achieve a new look that includes, but is not limited to, interlock-stitching 50, which is along sleeves 4a and the entire boarder of the jacket. Fastening track 51 with slider 52 is used to close the jacket when being worn. The inside back piece of the jacket reveals mouth 20 identified in FIG. 2. Since mouth 20 is completely concealed, there is no need for a closing device to seal the opening. The inside back piece of the jacket also reveals loop hole 22 and the drawstrings 21 which are positioned through loop hole 22 and are used to carry the garment when said jacket is converted to tote bag function.

The present invention used as a combination reversible jacket and tote bag in one more particularly relates to the view in FIG. 6 which is a plain view of the rear of the jacket with interlock stitching 50 visible as the border design on sleeves 4a which are used to receive arms into the garment. Trunk portion 60 covers the rear of the upper body and presents a clean, smooth surface as mouth opening 20, drawstrings 21, loop hole 22 and sack portion 30 from FIG. 2 are now completely concealed. Using the reverse mode is what makes the jacket so unique in that the functions and articles used to convert the jacket into a tote bag are not exposed at all thus eliminating the

obviousness of its multiple functions and the need for any closing devices or apparatus
since mouth 20 which leads to sack portion 30 is now completely concealed.